



OHIO FARM BUREAU PROTECTION REWARD PROGRAM



For Crimes Committed on or after
Jan. 1, 2008



For Crimes Committed on or before
Dec. 31, 2007

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INTRODUCTION

The Ohio Farm Bureau Property Protection Program has provided much publicity and has been said to be a deterrent against felonious criminal acts against property owners. It serves as one of the many benefits of Farm Bureau membership.

In 2007 Ohio Farm Bureau took the opportunity to re-evaluate the current Reward program and the value it represents to our members. After significant research of the positive effect it has had in our communities it was determined that the reward benefit would be increased to \$2500. The new increase became effective on January 1, 2008. The reward reflects actual date the crime was committed. The reward is not based on the conviction date of the crime, date proposal was submitted or date received in the State Office.

FOR CRIMES THAT OCCURRED ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2007 THE REWARD BENEFIT REMAINS \$1500 AND FOR CRIMES THAT OCCURRED ON JANUARY 1, 2008 OR AFTER THEY WILL RECEIVE THE \$2500.

The following pages provide necessary procedures for implementing the reward program. They should be referred to as a guide to answer questions about the program. You will also gain instruction on how to complete the required forms for submission of a reward proposal.

Note: Felony crimes are certain unlawful acts that are more serious than misdemeanor crimes and can be punishable by fines, jail time, and other punitive measures.

RULES GOVERNING THE FARM BUREAU PROPERTY PROTECTION SERVICE

1. The \$2500 reward will be paid to anyone giving information that leads to the arrest and conviction of for arson, malicious injury to property, burglary or other felonies committed on the member's property. The reward will also be paid for information leading to the arrest and conviction of persons stealing a car, truck, tractor or self-propelled equipment titled to or owned by the member, even though the crime did not occur on the member's premises.
2. The effective date of the program is each calendar year for which Farm Bureau dues have been paid. If dues have not been paid or there is a lapse in membership at the time of the crime, the program is void.
3. At least one sign or sticker must be displayed prominently on a member's property or vehicle at the time of the offense to qualify for the service.
4. If a person is convicted of several crimes, only one reward will be paid.
5. The person, or persons, who own the property and his, or their immediate family will not be eligible for the reward. Also, full time law enforcement officers of the county in which the crime was committed will not be eligible for the reward.
6. The reward will be paid after final conviction has been made and has not been appealed.
7. The reward does not apply for conviction of a misdemeanor.
8. Rewards are paid by the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, Inc., upon the recommendation of the county REWARD committee.

**SIGN POSTING REQUIRED BY THE FARM BUREAU MEMBER:
(ANY ONE OF THE BELOW IS REQUIRED)**

1. 11" x 14" plastic REWARD sign for premises or
2. 3" x 5" plastic REWARD sticker for house or farm equipment or
3. 2" x 3" inside REWARD STICKER for car or truck (corner of windshield or front glass)

To order signs from the Ohio Farm Bureau, please place through the on-line inventory section of iMIS.

<u>Item#</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Price</u>
1900	Reward Program Stuffer	\$0.07
1902	Inside Reward Sticker (3.25"x 5")	\$0.08
1904	Automobile Reward Sticker (2"x 3")	\$0.06
1906	Outside Window Reward Sticker (3.25"x 5")	\$0.06
1908	Reward Sign (11"x 14")	\$0.74

EXPLANATION OF REWARD CLAIM FORMS

#1 CONFIDENTIAL AFFIDAVIT FOR CLAIMING FARM BUREAU REWARD

Part 1 – Needs to be completed by the person claiming the reward.

- All information on the form needs to be completed
- Needs to be signed and dated by the person claiming the reward
- Needs to be signed by the county Sheriff or officer

Part 2 – Reward committee's statement

- Needs to be completed by the county reward committee or the County Board
- Must be signed and dated by a county Farm Bureau representative. (Not the Organization Director)

#2 CONVICTION REPORT FOR FARM BUREAU REWARD CLAIM

- Needs to be completed in full, signed and dated by the Prosecuting Attorney for the case.

#3 REPORT OF LOSS

- Needs to be completed in full, signed and dated by the member whose property was damaged or taken.

Note: *Although not required, you may also send police reports or any other documents that may assist in the decision making process.*

If any of the above forms are not completed in full including the required signatures, the claim will be returned to the county Farm Bureau office.

Also make sure before you submit a claim, that it qualifies as a legitimate claim as outlined in the rules. For questions regarding the Reward Program contact the Director of Membership Activities.

Q&A - \$2500 REWARD

Q: Can a property owner submit a reward claim for a crime committed on his/her own property?

A: No. The person, persons who own the property and his or their immediate family are not eligible for the reward.

Q: Can a reward claim be submitted for a misdemeanor charge?

A: No. It must be a felony conviction.

Q: Must a reward sign or sticker be posted on the premise where the crime occurred?

A: Yes. It must be displayed prominently on the premise or on a vehicle at the time of the crime.

Q: If more than one person supplies information that leads to the arrest and conviction of a felony, will more than one claim be paid out?

A: No. Only one \$2500 Reward Claim will be paid on a felony conviction; however a reward claim can be split based on the number of people who supplied information that led to the conviction.

Q: After a crime has been committed, can a member advertise the Farm Bureau reward in their local newspaper?

A: Yes. As long as the advertisement mentions that the reward will only be paid in the case of a felony conviction.

Q: Are businesses eligible to participate in the Reward program?

A: Yes. Provided that they are Farm Bureau members in current good standing. (Remember a business owner cannot submit a claim on his/her own business)

Q: How will the claim be awarded?

A: The Farm Bureau Regional Supervisor, County Organizational Director along with the County Sheriff, member the crime was committed against will present the award to the person that supplied the information that led to a conviction. (as per their permission). Photo should be taken.

Q: When should the claim forms be completed?

A: Once the case is completed and a conviction is upheld.